

21 February 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telephone call from Mr. Will Allen, LITHUANIAN DAILY NEWS, Chicago

1. Mr. Will Allen sought to speak to the Director by phone, in order to pass on to him certain views he had about the recent demonstrations at the UN. Because the Director was in a meeting at the moment, [redacted] took the call and talked to Mr. Allen, and received the following information.

2. Mr. Allen said that, in reading of the recent demonstrations at the UN on the Congo situation, he "suddenly" remembered a series of 14 articles he had written in 1933-34 on an outfit called "Red Front, U.S.A." for the N.Y. AMERICAN, and he thought he saw a similarity between the two periods. He said he joined that "Red Front" outfit for two weeks to get details for his story, and found it to be a paramilitary organization, training in provoking riots, street-fighting tactics, and disarming police--an "action" outfit rather than a "theoretical" study group. Some time after his series was published, the outfit disbanded officially and he forgot the matter. In recent days he has remembered what seems to be to him a remarkable similarity of tactics displayed then and now, and he wanted the Director to have his views, "ridiculous" as they might seem.

3. He said he was not trying to get information or opinions from this Agency for any news story; he simply wanted to convey his opinions. I thanked him and said I would bring that to the attention of the Director.

4. Mr. Allen is Washington correspondent of the LITHUANIAN DAILY NEWS (Chicago), and an accredited newsmen in the Congressional press galleries. We have had no previous contact with him in Colonel Gregory's office.

[redacted]
Acting Assistant to the Director

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